

Listing of the claims:

1. (Original) An electrical connector comprising:
a substantially planar body;
at least a first slot formed in the planar body and oriented in a selected direction;
said first slot adapted to conductively engage a first wire inserted therein;
at least a second slot formed in the planar body and oriented in a direction substantially parallel to the selected direction; and
said second slot adapted to conductively engage a second wire inserted therein;
such that the first wire and the second wire are in electrical contact with one another through the planar body.
2. (Original) An electrical connector according to claim 1, at least one slot adapted to displace insulation when a wire is inserted therein.
3. (Currently Amended) An electrical connector according to claim 1, at least one slot comprising an open end, a closed end and at least one tang protruding from the closed end toward the open end, said ~~blade~~ tang adapted to conductively engage said wire.
4. (Original) An electrical connector of claim 3, said at least one tang comprising two tangs.
5. (Original) A method of using an electrical connector of claim 3, comprising placing a wire having a single conductive strand and an insulative covering in between said two tangs, such that the tangs pierce the insulative covering and become electrically connected to said single conductive strand.
6. (Currently Amended) A method of using an electrical connector of claim 3, comprising placing a wire having multiple conductive strands and an insulative covering about said two tangs,

such that said tangs pierce the insulative cover and multiple conductive strands are dispersed about a surface of each said tang[[,]] and become electrically connected to each said tang[[,]].

7. (Original) An electrical connector of claim 3, said at least one slot comprising opposing walls.

8. (Original) An electrical connector of claim 7, said walls being movably adaptable about said wire.

9. (Original) A method of manipulating walls of an electrical connector of claim 7 comprising the steps of placing at least one wire into said at least one slot and bending said opposing walls about said wire such that it is retained in the slot.

10. (Original) An electric connector of claim 7, at least one of said walls comprising a protrusion toward the opposite wall.

11. (Original) An electric connector of claim 7, according to said protrusion comprising a hook.

12. (Original) An electrical connector of claim 1, at least one slot comprising an open end, a closed end and opposing walls, with at least two blades protruding from the open end toward the closed end, such that each blade forms a cavity between itself and a wall of the slot.

13. (Currently Amended) An electrical connector of claim [[1]] 12, said blades having a notch located along a length adjacent to an opposite blade.

14. (Currently Amended) An electrical connector of claim [[13]] 12, said blades adapted to be are manipulated toward each other such that each is capable of maintaining a spring load.

15. (Original) A method of manipulating blades of an electrical connector of claim 3 comprising the steps of placing a tool in a cavity formed between a blade and an opposing wall; and

- moving the tool such that it engages the blade and manipulates it toward an opposite wall.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15, comprising the tool moving in a substantially linear motion.
17. (Original) The method of claim 15, comprising the tool moving in an arching motion.
18. (Original) A method of claim manipulating a blade of claim 3 comprising moving the electrical connector about the tool such that the blade engages tool which manipulates the blade toward an opposite wall.
19. (Original) The method of claim 18, said connector moved about the tool in a substantially linear motion.
20. (Original) The method of claim 18, said connector is moved about the tool in an arching motion.
21. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 1, said connector further comprising two lateral edges and two ends, each end being adjacent to one of said slots.
22. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 21, said second slot oriented in a direction substantially parallel and opposite to the selected direction.
23. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 22, the closed end of the first slot adjacent to the closed end of the second slot.
24. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 22, at least one lateral edge further comprising at least one indentation adjacent to one of said slots.
25. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 24, wherein the indentation contains a lateral edge that is adjacent to an end and hooked toward an opposite end.
26. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 22, at least one each lateral edge further

comprises a protrusion located between the two ends.

27. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 26, at least one the protrusion located substantially about a centerline between the two ends.

28. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector of claim 23, at ~~test least~~ least one lateral edge further comprises a protrusion located between the indentation and the end adjacent to the opposing slot.

29. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 28, wherein the protrusion is located substantially about a centerline between the two ends.

30. (Original) An electrical connector comprising:

a substantially planar body;

at least a slot formed in the planar body and oriented in a selected direction;

said slot adapted to conductively engage a wire inserted therein;

at least a prong formed in the planar body and oriented in a direction substantially parallel to the selected direction; and

said prong adapted to conductively engage a printed circuit board to which it is inserted;

such that the wire and the printed circuit board are in electrical contact with one another through the planar body.

31. (Original) A strip of at least two electrical connectors comprising a strip of conductive material stamped into at least two electrical connectors, said connectors directly adjacent to each other such that there are no pieces of material between them that are not part of one of said connectors.

32. (Original) A method for producing at least one electrical connector, comprising the steps

of:

feeding blank material into a rolling die press comprising a rotary die, which is comprised of multiple individual dies arranged around a circumference of the rotary die;

rotating said rotary die repeatedly as blank material passes through it.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32, the rotary die further comprised of an indentation between each said individual die.

34. (Original) A method for placing at least two wires into an electrical connector containing at least two slots oriented in a direction substantially parallel to each other, comprising the steps of:

placing said at least two wires substantially parallel to each other;

spacing said at least two wires such that each wire is aligned with a slot of an electrical connector;

aligning said electrical connector such that each said slot is open toward said wires; and

applying force to said connector in a direction of said wires.

35. (Original) A method for placing at least two wires into an electrical connector containing at least two slots oriented in a direction substantially parallel to each other, comprising the steps of:

placing said at least two wires substantially parallel to each other;

spacing said at least two wires such that each wire is aligned with a slot of an electrical connector;

aligning said electrical connector such that each said slot is open toward said wires; and

applying force to said wires in a direction of said connector.

36. (Currently Amended) A method for placing at least two wires into an electrical connector containing at least two slots oriented in a direction substantially parallel to each other, comprising

the steps of:

placing said at least two wires substantially parallel to each other;
spacing said at least two wires such that each wire is aligned with a slot of an electrical connector;
~~aligning~~ aligning said electrical connector such that each said slot is open toward said wires; and
applying force to said each wire in a direction of said connector.

37. (Original) A method for placing at least two wires into an electrical connector containing at least two slots oriented in a direction substantially parallel and opposite to each other, comprising the steps of:

placing said at least two wires substantially parallel to each other;
spacing said wires apart a distance greater than ends of each said slot;
length of lateral edge 201 of connector 200;
aligning said electrical connector such that each said slot is open toward said wires; and
applying force to said each wire in a direction of said opposing wire.

38. (Original) A method for placing at least one wire and at least one printed circuit board into an electrical connector containing at least one slot and at least one prong oriented in a direction substantially parallel to each other, comprising the steps of:

placing said at least one wire substantially parallel to said at least one printed circuit board;
spacing said at least one wire such that it is aligned with a slot;
spacing said at least one printed circuit board such that it is aligned with a prong;

aligning said electrical connector such that each said slot is open toward said at least one wire and such that each said prong is extended toward said at least one printed circuit board; and applying force to said each wire and said each printed circuit board in a direction of said connector.

39. (New) An electrical connector of claim 12, said blades having blade lateral edges containing rounded edges.